

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A plastic closure for a container, comprising:
 - an upper wall;
 - a generally cylindrical sidewall depending downwardly from said upper wall, said sidewall having a threaded internal surface; and
 - an annular sealing plug depending downwardly from a lower surface of said upper wall, said annular sealing plug having an inner annular surface that when viewed in longitudinal cross-section extends at a first angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of said closure and an outer annular surface that when viewed in longitudinal cross-section extends at a second angle with respect to said longitudinal axis, and wherein said first angle is greater than said second angle.
2. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 1, wherein said inner annular surface is oriented to angle downwardly and radially outwardly toward said sidewall.
3. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 2, wherein said outer annular surface is also oriented to angle downwardly and radially outwardly toward said sidewall.
4. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 2, wherein said first angle is greater than said second angle by at least 2°.
5. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 2, wherein said first angle is at least 2°.
6. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 5, wherein said first angle is at least 10°.
7. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 6, wherein said first angle is at least 15°.

8. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 1, wherein said outer annular surface comprises a portion that is substantially linear in longitudinal cross-section, and wherein said linear portion intersects said upper wall.
9. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 1, wherein said inner annular surface comprises a portion that is substantially linear in longitudinal cross-section, and wherein said linear portion intersects said upper wall.
10. A plastic closure for a container according to claim 1, wherein said annular sealing plug is downwardly tapered.
11. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage, comprising steps of:
 - filling a container with a carbonated beverage; and
 - sealing the container by applying a plastic closure having
 - an upper wall;
 - a generally cylindrical sidewall depending downwardly from said upper wall, said sidewall having a threaded internal surface; and
 - an annular sealing plug depending downwardly from a lower surface of said upper wall, said annular sealing plug having an inner annular surface that when viewed in longitudinal cross-section extends at a first angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of said closure and an outer annular surface that when viewed in longitudinal cross-section extends at a second angle with respect to said longitudinal axis, and wherein said first angle is greater than said second angle.
12. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 11, wherein said inner annular surface is oriented to angle downwardly and radially outwardly toward said sidewall.

13. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 12, wherein said outer annular surface is also oriented to angle downwardly and radially outwardly toward said sidewall.
14. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 12, wherein said first angle is greater than said second angle by at least 2°.
15. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 12, wherein said first angle is at least 2°.
16. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 15, wherein said first angle is at least 10°.
17. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 16, wherein said first angle is at least 15°.
18. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 11, wherein said outer annular surface comprises a portion that is substantially linear in longitudinal cross-section, and wherein said linear portion intersects said upper wall.
19. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 1, wherein said inner annular surface comprises a portion that is substantially linear in longitudinal cross-section, and wherein said linear portion intersects said upper wall.
20. A method of packaging a carbonated beverage according to claim 11, wherein said annular sealing plug is downwardly tapered.